



**Borough of Yeovil**

---

**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

**31st DECEMBER, 1962**



B O R O U G H     O F     Y E O V I L

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Mayor:

ALDERMAN CHARLES EDWARD HAWES

Deputy Mayor:

ALDERMAN JOSEPH PATRICK KELLY

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor S. Pinder	:	Chairman
Alderman J. P. Kelly	:	Vice-Chairman
Councillor Mrs. H. Brown	:	
Councillor G. Gaylard	:	
Councillor R. T. Palmer	:	
Councillor J. A. Jones	:	

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer	:	P. POWER FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant County Medical Officer	:	M.I. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Dental Surgeon	:	QUENTIN DAVIES L.D.S. R.C.S.(Eng.)
Senior Public Health Inspector	:	C.G.H. RICE, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.R.S.I., S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Food.
Public Health Inspectors	:	G.E. ROADHOUSE, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.San.I., Cert. R.S.I., S.I.J.B., Cert.R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods.  D.F. ANTHONY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Cert. P.H., I.E.B., R.S.H. Diploma Meat and Other Foods.
Student Health Inspector	:	D. Keir.



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TO THE  
MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE  
YEOVIL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1962.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The total number of live births was 387, as compared with 375 for the previous year. The live birth rate was 15.7, as compared with 15.3 for the previous year, and England and Wales 18.0.

Infantile Mortality

The number of infants who died under the age of 12 months was 7, as compared with 10 for the previous year. The Infantile Mortality Rate, i.e. number of deaths per 1,000 live births was 18.08, as compared with 26.6 for the previous year, and England and Wales 20.7.

The Peri-natal Mortality Rate was 43, as compared with 26.2 for the previous year and 30.8 for England and Wales.

Death Rate

The Standardised Death Rate was 11.6 as compared with 11.3 for the previous year. The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.9.

As in previous years the major causes of death were Heart Disease, (all ages) 89, as compared with 95 for the year 1961, and Cancer, 54 as compared with 62 for the year 1961. It will be noted from the Table showing the age distribution at death (page 7) that excluding infants dying in the first twelve months of life, of the remaining 291 deaths, 266 occurred in people aged 65 years or over, 216 occurring in people who were aged 70 years or over.

Infectious Diseases

The number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 17, as compared with 534 for the previous year.

Immunisation

As in previous years, the figures relating to immunisation continue to be satisfactory. Based on the number of children born in the year 1962, viz. 387, the percentage of children immunised in the first two years of life against Diphtheria was 91%, against Whooping Cough 88.6% and against Poliomyelitis 99%. The percentage immunised against Tetanus was 93%, and against Smallpox 102%.

Smallpox

The increase in the number of Primary Vaccinations, 1,561 as compared with 362 for the previous year, and Re-vaccinations, 2,127 as compared with 362 for the previous year was a direct result of the Smallpox scare consequent upon the occurrence of cases of Smallpox in the country during 1962.



## Tetanus

For the first time figures are furnished with regard to active immunisation against Tetanus. This immunisation is similar to that of Diphtheria and is an actively acquired immunisation due to injection of Tetanus Toxoid. In previous years the general public has not been actively immunised against this disease, but a person sustaining an injury which might be complicated by Tetanus was given an injection of Anti-tetanus Serum, which conferred a passive temporary immunity to the disease and which protected the individual for that particular injury. The Anti-tetanus Serum is a horse serum and a person who has previously received an injection of horse serum, e.g. Anti-tetanus/Anti-Diphtheria may have become sensitized to horse serum and developed antibodies which destroys the horse serum. The effect of this is that a subsequent dose of anti-serum may be eliminated too rapidly from the body to be effective in producing a passive immunisation and thereby prevent the outset of the disease for which it is administered. Because of this possibility, it is now the policy that all children are actively immunised against Tetanus in infancy and subsequently receive "booster" doses during childhood.

I again have pleasure in recording my appreciation of the help and co-operation received from the Council, from the Public Health Committee, and from members of the Staff.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,

P. POWER FOX.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

## YEOVIL BOROUGH

### STATISTICS OF THE AREA FOR THE YEAR 1962

Areas (in acres)	...	...	...	...	2,293
Rateable Value (31st March, 1963)	...	...	...	...	£1,110,994
Estimated Produce of 1d. rate in year ending 31.3.63.					£4,509
Number of inhabited houses (31.3.63)		...	...		7,989
Population	...	...	...	...	24,550

### PHYSICAL FEATURES AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Yeovil comprises an area of 2,293 acres and is situated at the extreme South of the County of Somerset, on the borders of Dorset, in the midst of an agricultural area.

The town is located on the Upper and Middle Liassic Formation. The sub-soil is chiefly clay, lying upon marlstone with the Midford Sands at Hendford Hill.

The greatest elevations within the Borough are on the North, Mudford Road, 372 feet; on the West, Bunford Lane, 233 feet; and on the South, West Coker Road, 309 feet. The lowest point is on the East, beyond the Sewage Works, 96.7 feet.

### WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is derived from the various sources, the majority being situated in Dorset. The sources of supply are as follows:- Spring Pond (two springs), Evershot Tunnel, upper and lower Haydon Wood, Stockwood and the Cattistock source, which consists of four boreholes. All the water is chlorinated, and frequent bacteriological analyses show the water to be satisfactory in quality. The present demand for the Borough is 1,750,000 gallons per day, which necessitates the water supply from the above sources being supplemented with water derived from the Sutton Bingham Reservoir.

### METEOROLOGY

The climate is mild and relaxing. There is little fog or mist.

### RAINFALL

Pen Mill. Total rainfall = 24.95 inches.

### POPULATION

The population for 1962 is 24,550.

## OCCUPATION

One of the main industries of Yeovil is in the manufacture of leather gloves, and includes all processes from the preparation of the raw hides to the production of the finished article. This trade gives factory and home employment to a large number of persons of both sexes.

In addition to the gloving industry, there is a thriving aircraft industry and other light engineering industries. There is also a large factory for the manufacture of preserved foods and dairy products.

## YEOVIL HOSPITAL

The Hospital Services in the Borough are administered by the South Somerset Hospital Management Committee, under the general direction of the South Western Regional Hospital Board. Situated in the Borough are

- (1) The Yeovil & District Hospital - an acute general hospital.
- (2) Summerlands Hospital - mainly used as a geriatric hospital.
- (3) Yeovil Maternity Hospital ( Five Crossways) - 14 beds.
- (4) Balidon Maternity Hospital - a General Practitioners Unit - 17 beds.

The Yeovil Hospital consists of 85 beds, of which 6 beds are private. The number of patients discharged throughout the year was 2,620(2721 in 1961), the average length of stay being 10 to 21 days. In addition, 5,824 new patients attended the Specialist and Out-patient clinics, making a total number of attendances of 19,121.

In addition, there were 3,999 attendances at the Orthoptic Department, and 22,369 units of work were carried out in the Radiological Department. Members of the Council are already aware of the difficulties due to the lack of beds and inadequate facilities of the present hospital, but steady, if slow, progress is being made to the building of a new hospital of approximately 300 beds.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are treated at the South Petherton Hospital (50 beds). In general, only the Cubicle Block (10 beds) is required, and the other 40 beds are utilized for post-operative cases, so relieving the strain on the Yeovil Hospital and for General Practitioner patients and semi-chronic sick.

## TUBERCULOSIS

A Chest Clinic is held on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Yeovil Hospital. Patients requiring in-patient treatment are admitted to sanatoria at Taunton.

## CHRONIC SICK

Summerlands Hospital (100 beds), which is situated in the Borough, is the largest hospital in the area used for this purpose. This hospital was originally a Poor Law Institute built in 1837, and the layout etc., does not conform with the accepted standards of today. Further, there is a shortage of nursing staff, but despite these handicaps, valuable work is carried out by the staff of the Hospital.

## LABORATORY SERVICE

A laboratory is located at the Yeovil Hospital. The Public Health Laboratory Service has a laboratory at Taunton, at which bacteriological examination of swab, blood, sputum and faeces is carried out. Bacteriological and chemical analyses for the examination of milk, foods, water supplies and sewage effluents are also carried out.



## AMBULANCE FACILITIES

### Service

The Ambulance/ is the responsibility of the Somerset County Council.

I am indebted to Captain C. J. Hutton, A.I.A.O., Ambulance Group Officer for the following observations.

The Ambulance Group Officer for South East Somerset housed at Summerlands Hospital, and the ambulance staff and vehicles housed at Salthouse Lane, both in very unsuitable premises, were brought together under one roof at the fine new ambulance station and control next to the Fire Station in Reckleford on the 19th April this year.

This new station has ample garage accommodation for the ambulances with under floor heating, a heated blanket store adjacent to the vehicles, a well equipped work shop for maintenance and repairs of a minor nature, a sluice for bottles and bed pans and a dressing destructor.

The large airy control overlooks the Station yard and from here a constant supply of messages to and from the ambulances on the road is kept up, by the use of this short wave radio an ambulance can be diverted to an emergency at any time, in fact this week an accident occurred in High Street, Ilchester, just as an ambulance was passing by the Northover A.A. Box, a radio call was passed to this vehicle and to the great surprise of the caller, arrived on the spot before he had left the telephone box. It does not always work out this way, but still saves a great deal of delay.

This Station has a staff of 15, and 7 ambulances and a sitting case car; these aided by the Sub-station at Castle Cary, with a staff of 4, and 3 ambulances, deals with about 2,400 removals per month to and from hospitals in the South West. Most go to and from Yeovil Hospital and the other hospitals in the South Somerset Hospital Group, others go to Bristol, Bath, Exeter and Taunton, with an occasional train case to London, this is done by special arrangement with the Railway Authorities and the use of special stretcher gear.

The number of accident calls in the area varies, but averages 36 per month. The vehicles cover a vast mileage, some doing over 2,000 miles per month.

Every effort is made to keep journeys economical, but often life or death is the ruling factor.

The men have a fine kitchen and dining room, which can also be used for recreation and training, in fact, an advanced training course is starting on the 27th September, and will last for ten weeks. Each man has his own locker, there are excellent washing facilities and a hot shower, should they be involved in a dirty accident.

The Station is a very happy one, and it is our aim to serve the community to the best of our ability and there is no doubt that the new Station has assisted us in this direction, the vehicles can be kept in better condition and the turn out is quicker.

Signed: C. J. Hutton.  
Ambulance Group Officer.  
5th September, 1963.

## HOUSING

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the resumé showing the number of council houses erected by the Corporation.

Houses, etc., completed during the year ended 31.12.62	=	116
Houses, etc., erected pre-war	=	1,596
Houses, etc., sold pre-war	=	113
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Houses owned at 31st December, 1959	=	1,483
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Houses, etc., erected post-war	=	1,490
Houses, etc., sold post-war	=	115
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		1,575
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Houses, etc., erected by the Local Authority and still owned by them		2,877
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No. of applicants on the waiting list as at 31.12.62	=	536

## VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

The statistics furnished by the Registrar General show the number of births and deaths after correction has been made for transfers to the normal place of residence of the individuals concerned. From these figures can be calculated the "crude" birth and death rates. As, however, the highest mortality occurs at the two extremes of life, and industrial areas in general have a bigger proportion of people living in the middle age periods of life, some correction must be made for the irregularities of distribution as regards age and sex, as otherwise the death rate will afford no accurate means of comparing the healthiness of one district with another. This comparability factor is furnished by the Registrar General and applied to the "crude" birth or death rate, gives a standardized rate and enables comparison to be made with the rate for England and Wales, or with rates of other districts.

Live Births	387
Live Birth Rate	15.7
Standardised Birth Rate	16.01
Stillbirths	12
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	30.07
Total Births	399
Infant Deaths	7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	18.08
" " " " " legitimate births	19.02
" " " " " illegitimate births	-
Neonatal Mortality rate (first four weeks) per 1,000 related live births	15.5
Early Neo-natal Mortality rate (first week) per 1,000 related live births	10.3
Perinatal Mortality rate (stillbirths + deaths during the first week) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	40.1
Percentage of illegitimate live births	4.9
Maternal Deaths (excluding abortion)	-
Maternal Mortality rate (including abortion) per 1,000 total births	-

DEATHS

			<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total Deaths ... ..	158	140	298	290
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population ... ..			12.1	11.8
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population ... ..			11.6	11.3
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..			53	59
Deaths from Heart Disease (all ages) ... ..			89	95
Deaths from Phthisis (all ages) ... ..			1	1

BIRTHS

The total number of births was 387, 199 male and 188 female. Of these, 19 were illegitimate, 7 male and 12 female. The Table below shows the birth rate for the previous ten years.

BIRTH RATES

1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
14.9	13.5	15.0	14.2	15.9	13.6	15.3	14.7	15.3	15.7

DEATHS

There was an increase in the total number of deaths, 298 in 1962, as compared with 290 for the previous year. The Standardised Death Rate was 11.6, as compared with 11.3 for the previous year. The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.9.

The following Table shows the age and sex incidence, and it will be noted that amongst the males, of the 158 deaths, 137 occurred amongst those 65 years and over, and 78 amongst those 75 years and over. Of the females, out of the total of 140 deaths, 129 were 65 years and over, and 101 were 75 years and over.

Ages at death in years				Males	Females	Total
Under 1	...	...	...	6	1	7
1	...	...	...	-	-	-
5	...	...	...	-	1	1
15	...	...	...	2	-	2
25	...	...	...	4	-	4
45	...	...	...	9	9	18
65	...	...	...	36	14	50
Total under 70 ...				57	25	82
70	...	...	...	23	14	37
75	...	...	...	23	21	44
80	...	...	...	23	18	41
85	...	...	...	19	37	56
90	...	...	...	10	19	29
95	...	...	...	3	6	9
Over 100 ...				-	-	-
Total over 70 ...				101	140	298
Totals ... ..				158	140	298



The following Table shows the causes of death during 1962.

Causes of Death				Males	Females
Tuberculosis Non-pulmonary.	...	...		1	-
S. philitic Disease	...	...		2	-
Malignant Neoplasms, Stomach	...	...		6	4
" " Lung, Bronchus	...	...		9	1
" " Breast	...	...		-	4
" " Uterus	...	...		-	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms				16	10
Leukaemia; aleukaemia	...	...		-	1
Diabetes	...	...		-	3
Vascular lesions of the nervous system				32	31
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...		33	16
Hypertension with Heart Disease		...		2	2
Other Heart Disease	...	...		11	25
Other circulatory Disease	...	...		9	10
Influenza	...	...		1	2
Pneumonia	...	...		4	5
Bronchitis	...	...		6	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...		-	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...		2	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea		...		-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...		2	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...		2	-
Congenital malformations	...	...		3	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases				11	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...		1	1
All other accidents	...	...		4	3
Suicide	...	...		1	-
				158	140

#### DEATH RATE

1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
10.85	9.57	11.34	12.02	11.8	11.2	10.1	13.03	11.3	11.6

#### CANCER

The number of deaths due to Cancer (all forms) was 54. The Table as set out below shows the incidence for previous years.

1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
51	41	49	40	59	51	48	50	59	54



CANCER DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION:

Year	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Yeovil Boro'	2.02	2.14	1.7	2.04	1.6	2.04	2.1	1.9	2.13	2.4	2.1
County of Somerset	1.98	1.84	2.06	2.046	1.89	2.054	2.018	2.12	2.157	2.22	2.17
England & Wales	1.99	1.99	2.035	2.056	2.1	2.1	2.12	2.13	2.15	2.16	2.177

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of children dying within the first twelve months of life was 7, as compared with 10 for the previous year. The rate per thousand of live births was 18.08, as compared with England and Wales - 21.6.

The following Table shows the number of deaths and the Infantile Mortality Rate as compared with previous years.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
No. of Deaths	11	8	7	5	8	5	9	12	9	10	7
Rate per 1,000 live births in Yeovil	30	22.5	21.7	13.8	23.3	13.05	27.6	32.6	25.4	26.6	18.08
Rate per 1,000 live births in Eng. & Wales	27.6	26.5	25.5	24.9	23.8	23.1	22.5	22.6	21.9	22.4	20.7

CAUSES OF DEATH

Intercranial Haemorrhage (Prematurity 29 weeks)	...	...	11 hours
Pulmonary Haemorrhage	...	...	17 hours
Atelectasis (Prematurity)	...	...	1 day
Prematurity (28 weeks)	...	...	6 days
" (28 weeks)	...	...	1 week
Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	12 days
Acute Bronchitis	...	...	10½ months

### AGE OF DEATH

Under 24 hours	Under 1 week	1 month or under	Under one year
2	5	6	7

### MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following Table sets out the details of infectious diseases notified during the year, and also the figures for the previous year.

CAUSES					Cases Notified	
					1962	1961
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1	3
Measles	...	...	...	...	10	489
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1	31
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	2	3
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	1	2
Total					17	534

### IMMUNIZATION

#### Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

The following Table shows the number of children who completed a full course of primary immunization during the year 1962.

Children born in the years:-

	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1953-57</u>	<u>1948-52</u>	<u>Total</u>
Diphtheria	155	197	11	9	4	32	35	443
Whooping Cough	156	187	11	9	-	-	-	363

In addition, 334 children in the same age groups received re-inforcement or "booster" doses against Diphtheria.

#### Smallpox

Age Groups		<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15 or over</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of	1962	358	40	118	601	444	1,561
Primary Vaccs.	1961	302	33	21	6	-	362

In addition, 2,127 were re-vaccinated as compared with 5 for the previous year.

### Poliomyelitis

No. of persons who received a course of primary vaccination (two injections or three doses of Oral vaccine) during the year 1962.

Children born in 1962	Children born in 1961	Young Persons born 1933-42	Persons under 40 years of age + priority groups	Total
Salk      Oral 15        38	Salk      Oral 73        259	Salk      Oral 9         34	Salk      Oral 10        103	Salk      Oral 107      434
Grand Total      =      541				

### Re-inforcement Doses, 1962

No. of Persons (all groups) who rec'd a 3rd reinforcing injection.	No. of children of 5 years, but under 12 yrs. who rec'd a 4th reinforcing injection.	No. of persons (all groups) who rec'd a reinforcing dose of Oral vaccine follow- ing 2 Salk Injs.	No. of children of 5 yrs. but under 12 yrs. who rec'd a dose of Oral vaccine after 3 Salk injs.
503	167	246	144

### Tetanus

No. of children who received a full course of primary immunization (Tetanus Toxoid) in the year 1962.

Children born in the years:-

<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1953-57</u>	<u>1948-52</u>	<u>Total</u>
156	194	12	11	3	50	22	448

Children who received a re-inforcement dose and were born in the years:-

<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1953-57</u>	<u>1948-52</u>	<u>Total</u>
-	40	23	5	3	25	16	112

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year 1962 was 5, non-pulmonary 1. There were no deaths recorded due to pulmonary tuberculosis, and one death due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
No. of cases notified Pulmonary ...	5	8	9	12	12	17	24	28	26
No. of cases notified Non-pulmonary	1	4	1	4	2	4	4	4	4
No. of deaths. Pulmonary ...	-	1	1	-	2	-	2	2	5
No. of deaths Non- pulmonary	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Death Rate of Respiratory Tuber- culosis per 1,000 population	-	0.04	0.04	0.01	0.08	-	0.08	0.08	0.20

The Death Rate of all forms of Tuberculosis for England and Wales was 0.06.

Age	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 ...	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
65 & up- wards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	-	1	-	-	-	1	-



## DENTAL TREATMENT

Number of ante-natal cases	...	64
Number of post-natal cases	...	38
Number of children under 5 yrs.		194

## HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS

Infants:-

Primary visits	582
Subsequent visits	2,531
Visits to children 1 - 5 years	2,376

## BLOOD EXAMINATION CLINIC

This clinic was commenced in 1947. It is held at the Preston Road Clinic, Yeovil. Since its inception, 7,314 individual pregnant women have been examined, 248 examinations being carried out in 1962.

The areas from which the patients are drawn, are, as would be expected, mainly the Yeovil Borough and Yeovil Rural District. Patients are referred by the private practitioner or midwife, without previous appointment. A card showing the patient's blood group, and whether she is Rh. Positive or Rh. Negative is forwarded to her direct, together with a covering letter emphasizing the importance of her retaining the card in case she ever requires a blood transfusion for any purpose. A report giving further information, including percentage of haemoglobin and W.R. test, is forwarded to the private doctor, and a copy of this report is also forwarded to the Midwife or Matron of the maternity unit, depending on where the patient is having her confinement. Previously, similar information was forwarded to Yeovil Hospital in case the patient was admitted there for any reason and required a blood transfusion, but a copy is now forwarded direct by the Laboratory doing the tests.

A record of all blood tests is kept at the Public Health Department. In the case of second or subsequent pregnancies of Rh. Negative women, as the test is normally carried out early in pregnancy, a further test is carried out 6 to 8 weeks before the expected date of confinement, to exclude antibodies. If antibodies are found to be present, and in sufficient quantities to threaten the welfare of the baby when born, arrangements are made for the baby to be born either at Bristol or Taunton, so that the blood transfusion of the baby can be carried out if necessary. The number of babies whose life has been saved by this procedure now runs into double figures, and is a source of considerable gratification.

## INFANT WELFARE

### Preston Road Clinic

Total number of children attending	...	681
Total number of children attending for the first time	...	378
Total number of attendances made	...	3,677

### Larkhill Road Clinic

Total number of children attending	...	11
Total number of children attending for the first time	...	-
Total number of attendances made	...	16

(This clinic was closed on 31st May, 1962)

### Southville Clinic

Total number of children attending	...	202
Total number of children attending for the first time	...	87
Total number of attendances made	...	917

## HOME HELP SERVICE

I am indebted to the Home Help Organiser for the following observations.

Doctors, Nurses and Almoners now regard the Service as a source from which reliable help will be forthcoming. The public do not hesitate to avail themselves of its help in times of emergency, and a strict eye is kept on the ever present few who would seek to abuse the Service, and families are encouraged to look after their aged parents wherever possible.

The 51 women working as Home Helps in Yeovil, know only too well that they must be adaptable, kind, know what is best for the patient, and use good common sense when discharging their normal household duties.

Since the new Mental Health Act started, fewer cases are being admitted to hospital, and the Home Help has been found invaluable where not only housework is essential but someone who is able to ward off the moods of depression and self-pity.

The work of the Home Help Service continues to be an essential auxiliary to the health and welfare services, and we go forward with hope and enthusiasm to meet the ever increasing demand.

### No. of cases who received help in 1962

<u>Type of Case</u>					<u>Yeovil Borough</u>
Mental Health	...	...	...	...	5
Maternity	...	...	...	...	35
Old Age and Infirmary	...	...	...	...	152
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	4
Chronic Illness	...	...	...	...	16
Emergency Illness	...	...	...	...	19
Families of motherless children	...	...	...	...	2
Post-operation	...	...	...	...	16
Total					249

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.

## REVIEW OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The school health services provides for remedial and preventive treatment, and consists of:-

- (a) Routine and Special medical inspections.
- (b) Minor Ailment treatment.
- (c) Cleanliness inspections of children by Health Visitors.
- (d) Dental inspection and treatment.
- (e) A much expanded scheme, in co-operation with the Hospital Services, for the treatment of defects of vision, and of ear, nose and throat.
- (f) Routine colour vision testing of children.
- (g) Routine and special testing of children's hearing acuity.
- (h) Speech Therapy.
- (i) Ultra Violet Light clinics for debilitated children.
- (j) Routine immunization of children against diphtheria. This consists mainly of re-inforcement inoculations of children already immunized, but children who have been "missed" in infancy are also immunized.
- (k) Breathing Exercises Clinic.

The Breathing Exercises Clinic was established in 1950, and is intended mainly for children who have Asthma, but also for other children

with a history of chest trouble and for whom breathing exercises are valuable. The number of children initially enrolled was 23, the number on the roll in December, 1962, was 22. The total number of attendances in the year was 255, and since the inception of the scheme 202 children have been, or are being, treated. There is a marked improvement physically of children attending regularly, as shown by the increase in chest expansion and also by clinical examination of the chest. In addition, the children develop a sense of self confidence as they learn how to combat an impending attack of Asthma, and there is a marked improvement of physique and general posture.



R E P O R T  
OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1962.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I present herewith my Report for the year 1962.

HOUSING ACT 1957.

Since 1955 a total of 508 houses has been dealt with as unfit under the Act.

The remaining unfit properties are gradually being dealt with and more attention directed towards the repair of the second stage housing, those worth making fit for a further lease of life by means of grant aid.

DETAILS OF HOUSING ACTION:

A. CLEARANCE AREAS:

Number of areas declared .....	4
(a) Houses in pink land .....	18
(b) Houses in pink hatched yellow land .....	5
Number in (a) demolished .....	17

B. INDIVIDUAL UNFITS:

Number dealt with under Section 16 of the Act .....	27
" " " under Section 18 of the Act .....	1

C. UNFIT HOUSES RENDERED FIT:

Formally under the Housing Act .....	6
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COMPLAINTS:

Various complaints received by the Department during the year include:-

General housing defects .....	53
Defective drainage, cesspools, etc.....	27
Smoke, dust and effluvia .....	12
Rats and mice .....	100
Re: Unfit food and food premises .....	13
Keeping of animals and poultry .....	2
Factories and other premises .....	8
Insect pest .....	14
Overcrowding .....	1
Noise .....	3
Movable dwellings .....	1
Miscellaneous .....	6

HOUSING INSPECTIONS:

Houses and other premises inspected:-

(a) under the Public Health Act .....	49
(b) under the Housing Act .....	206

Reinspections:

(a) under the Public Health Act .....	41
(b) under the Housing Act .....	241

GENERAL INSPECTIONS:

Complaints .....	90
Drainage .....	61
Verminous premises .....	16
Movable dwellings .....	18
Offensive trades .....	2



General Inspections Cont'd:

Inspections re:-

S.D.A.A. Loans .....	39
Improvement Grants .....	31
Standard Grants .....	18
Searches (cursory inspections) .....	176
Noise .....	9
Complaints re Rodents (a) by P.H. Dept.....	11
(b) by Rodent Operator..	736
Interviewing owners, builders, etc. ....	709
Visits to sewer manholes by Rodent Operator .....	340

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956.

Smoke nuisances .....	21
Smoke observations .....	23
Boiler inspections .....	5

FOOD PREMISES:

Slaughterhouses .....	1206
Butchers' Shops .....	24
Cafes, restaurants, etc....	31
Bakehouses .....	13
Icecream premises .....	38
Fish Shops .....	10
Provision dealers .....	126
Public Houses .....	18
Stalls .....	223
Fish and chip shops .....	8
Other premises .....	58

SAMPLES TAKEN:

Water - Chemical .....	8
Water - Bacteriological .....	21
Icecream.....	17
Miscellaneous .....	2

FACTORY ACTS:

Inspections .....	19
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RENT ACT 1957.

No applications were received during the year and no action was therefore taken.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following disinfections were carried out:-

Rooms sprayed or fumigated for tuberculosis .....	25
" " " " " cancer .....	36
" " " " " vermin .....	16(disinfestation)
Library books .....	78
Miscellaneous disinfections .....	5

SHOPS ACT 1950.

Inspections .....	64
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FOOD INSPECTION

Slaughterhouses:

There are still two slaughterhouses functioning in the Borough. Generally speaking the quality of meat produced is very good. With the eradication of tuberculosis, attention is focused on cysticercosis infection.

Number of animals killed during the past five years:-

YEAR	CATTLE	SHEEP & LAMBS	PIGS	CALVES	TOTAL
1958	2205	3599	11050	1387	18, 241
1959	1696	3850	7005	114	12, 655
1960	1678	3223	4585	156	9,642
1961	1697	6503	2479	188	10,677
1962	1571	4992	2394	134	9,091

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole, or in part during the year:-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1507	64	134	4992	2394
Number inspected	1507	64	134	4992	2394
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	2	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	173	8	-	116	133
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	11.47%	12.5%	-	2.36%	6.14%
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	25
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis					1.04%
<u>Cysticercosis:</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to refrigeration treatment	17	-	-	-	-
<u>Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for:-</u>					
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	520
(b) Cysticercosis	330	-	-	-	-
(c) Other	72	24	40	210	839
Total (in lbs) condemned	402	24	40	210	1359

OFFAL CONDEMNED:

	<u>Bullocks.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Heads and Tongues .....	15	1	1	39
Plucks .....	-	1	10	40
Lungs and Hearts .....	2	-	-	5
Lungs .....	14	-	73	93
Skirts.....	1	-	-	-
Kidneys .....	19	-	2	42
Livers .....	68	-	71	52
Part Livers .....	89	-	3	-
Milts .....	-	-	-	4
Guts .....	13	-	-	23
Misenteries .....	-	-	1	-

CANNED FOODS CONDEMNED

Jam .....	4	tins
Meat .....	366	"
Milk .....	71	"
Fruit & Vegetables .....	965	"
Fish .....	294	"
Hams .....	27	"
Soup .....	57	"

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

Wet Fish .....	4	stone
Chickens .....	171	lbs.
Turkeys .....	40	lbs.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955.

Applications for registration of persons and premises:-	
for the sale and storage of icecream .....	6
for the preparation of preserved food .....	nil

ICECREAM:

Total number of premises registered at the end of the year:-	
for sale and storage only .....	97

PRESERVED FOOD:

Total number of premises registered at the end of the year .....	25
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SAMPLES TAKEN

DESIGNATED MILKS (for keeping quality only):

	<u>No. taken in the Borough.</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Void</u>
By Somerset C.C.	203	190	9	4

ICECREAM:

<u>Number taken</u>	<u>Placed in provisional grades</u>			
	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>
17	12	4	1	-

WATER:

	<u>Bacteriological</u>		<u>Chemical</u>	
	<u>No. taken.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>No. taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>
Mains supplies (to cover all sources).	21	21	2	2



WATER Cont'd

	<u>Bacteriological</u>		<u>Chemical</u>	
	<u>No. taken.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>No. taken.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>
Source supplies (supplying mains)	-	-	6	6

Note: All water supplies are chlorinated before passing into the main and tests are made for residual chlorine in each sample taken.

ACTION UNDER SECTION 24 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

Number of lengths of sewer cleared ..... 5  
 Number of houses involved ..... 30

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.1. Sewerage System:

During the year the sewers were systematically tested for rats. The following figures show the work carried out. Infestations have proved to be minor in character.

Areas test baited ..... 12  
 Points baited ..... 360  
 Negative results (presumed clear) ..... 321  
 Total number of visits made ..... 702

2. Private premises (including business premises):

Number of premises visited ..... 1028  
 Number treated for some degree of  
   infestation.        512  
 Number with no infestation ..... 513  
 Number of points baited ..... 5825  
 Number of premises cleared ..... 494

3. Corporation Premises:

Inspections and treatments are carried out at the Corporation Sewage Works and refuse tip regularly. The work is done as a routine measure in order to keep any infestation under control.

During the year approximately 100 visits were made and more than 800 points baited.

Approximately 110 visits were made in connection with two contracts at business and factory premises.

I again record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support throughout the year, and also the Members of the Staff of my Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. G. H. RICE.





